

April 1, 2016

## Notice of 2016-2017 FY Assessment Rate California Leafy Green Products Handler Marketing Agreement (LGMA)

(\$0.011 per 24-count carton or its equivalent)

## **To The LGMA Leafy Green Products Handler Addressed:**

Upon the recommendation of the California Leafy Green Products Handler Advisory Board (LGMA), the Department of Food and Agriculture has established the 2016-2017 LGMA assessment rate at \$0.011 per 24-count carton or its equivalent. This assessment applies to all leafy green products put into commerce by signatory handlers during the period beginning April 1, 2016 through March 31, 2017. The new 2016-2017 LGMA assessment rate is slightly less than last year's rate of \$0.0115 per 24-count carton or its equivalent.

The party responsible for paying assessments on leafy greens regulated by the Agreement is the signatory handler whose name appears on the legal panel on packs as they move into commerce. If the product is not packed under a signatory trade name, the signatory with the legal responsibility for the product as it moves into commerce is responsible for the assessment.

The LGMA will use the handler assessments to fund audits for assuring that signatory handlers are marketing leafy green products that have been produced and handled in accordance with the LGMA's food safety practices. Additionally, the LGMA will conduct producer food safety education activities and will educate the public about the LGMA's food safety efforts.

The LGMA will provide signatory handlers with assessment forms and instructions for paying the LGMA assessment. The LGMA's instructions will include a list of assessment equivalencies for the various pack styles of leafy green products sold by signatories. For further information about the LGMA assessment, please call Scott Horsfall, CEO of the LGMA, at (916) 441-1240, or call Dennis Manderfield of this office at (916) 900-5018.

Sincerely,

Robert Maxie, Chief Marketing Branch

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